

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 IO-13 ACDA-07 OMB-01 SAJ-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EB-07 TRSE-00 AID-05

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R 270615Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7322

INFO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USUN NEW YORK 0540

C O N F I D E N T I A L KABUL 3136

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, KS, AF

SUBJ: REPUBLIC OF KOREA (ROK) MISSION VISITS KABUL

REF: SEOUL 2414

1. SUMMARY. A ROK SPECIAL MISSION FOR POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS VISITED KABUL FOR FOUR DAYS BEGINNING APRIL 15. ON THE POLITICAL FRONT THE TEAM PRESENTED A FORMAL DEMARCHE REGARDING THE KOREAN ISSUE (IDENTICAL TO CORE GROUP TALKING POINTS PARA 4, STATE 98185) AND RAISED SUBJECT OF NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT. ON THE ECONOMIC SIDE TWO MODEST AGREEMENTS WERE REACHED FOR ROK TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IN CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT AND SERICULTURE. END SUMMARY.

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2. ROK SPEICAL MISSION FOR POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC

AFFAIRS ARRIVED IN KABUL APRIL 15 FOR FOUR-DAY VISIT. ASSISTANT MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS KIM AND ASSISTANT DIRECTOR GENERAL OF ASIAN AFFAIRS GONG MADE UP POLITICAL COMPONENT OF GROUP. KIM AND GONG WERE HOSTED BY SAMAD GHAS, DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS, MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS. THEY PAID CALLS ON DE FACTO FOREIGN MINISTER WAHEED ABDULLAH AND ON MOHAMMAD NAIM, PRESIDENT DAOUD'S BROTHER AND A KEY (BUT UNOFFICIAL) FOREIGN POLICY ADVISOR.

3. ACCORDING TO RESIDENT ROK AMBASSADOR DELEGATION WAS IMPRESSED BY GOVERNMENT OF AFGHANISTAN'S (GOA) UNDERSTANDING OF THE KOREAN ISSUES, BUT DELEGATION RECEIVED NO ASSURANCES ON FUTURE GOA STAND ON KOREAN ISSUE IN INTERNATIONAL FORUMS. (GOA HAS DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH BOTH KOREAS AND HAS ABSTAINED ON KOREAN QUESTIONS AT UN FOR PAST FIVE YEARS.) ROK DELEGATION PRESENTED FORMAL DEMARCHE, OF WHICH WE OBTAINED COPY, IDENTICAL TO CORE GROUP TALKING POINTS GIVEN PARA 4, STATE 98185.

4. ISSUE OF FORTHCOMING NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT SUMMIT WAS RAISED IN TALKS AND AFGHANS SPOKE OF APPLYING STRICT CRITERIA IN DEFINING NON-ALIGNMENT. IN TAKING THIS LINE GOA MAY HAVE BEEN DISCLAIMING RESPONSIBILITY FOR AUGUST 1975 LIMA DECISION INVITING NORTH KOREA INTO NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT (AFGHANISTAN WAS IN FACT ONE OF FIVE COUNTRIES AT LIMA WHICH INSISTED ON DEVELOPMENT BY A SUB COMMITTEE OF CRITERIA TO GOVERN ADMITTANCE OF NEW MEMBERS. THIS GROUP FAVORED POSTPONING A DECISION ON THE TWO KOREAS UNTIL THE COLOMBO SUMMIT CONFERENCE. SEE ALSO STATE 207456 OF 8/31/75).

5. ECONOMIC COMPONENT OF KOREAN MISSION WAS FOUR-MAN TEAM INCLUDING ECONCOUNS AND CONSTRUCTION ATTACHE FROM ROK EMBASSY TEHRAN. ACCORDING TO ROK EMBASSY IN KABUL, GOA MADE CLEAR TO THE CONFIDENTIAL

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VISITING GROUP THAT THEY HAVE NO PLANS TO SEEK DEVELOPMENTAL AID FROM THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF KOREA (DPRK). GOA, HOWEVER, DID MAKE A PITCH FOR A MODEST ROK TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM. TWO SMALL PROJECTS WERE AGREED UPON FOR THE COMING YEAR: TWO CONSTRUCTION EXPERTS ARE EXPECTED SHORTLY TO ASSIST IN PROJECT PLANNING AND TWO SERICULTURE EXPERTS

WILL FOLLOW (TO REPLACE A PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF CHINA TEAM WHICH HAS DEPARTED). THE ROK DELEGATION, IN TURN, GOT IN A FEW COMMERCIAL LICKS BY POINTING OUT PRICE COMPETITIVENESS OF THEIR CONSUMER GOODS LINES VIS-A-VIS JAPANESE PRODUCTS, WHICH NOW TAKE A LION'S SHARE OF AFGHAN IMPORTS OF TRANSISTOR RADIOS, CASSETTE PLAYERS, AND THE LIKE.

6. REGARDING OTHER STOPS ENROUTE, ROK AMBASSADOR HERE HAS SAID THAT KIM AND GON WERE "WELL RECEIVED" IN DELHI AND THAT, ALTHOUGH THEIR VISIT WAS "UNOFFICIAL", THEY HAD BEEN ABLE TO MEET WITH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS THEY HAD HOPED TO SEE.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, LOBBYING, MINISTERIAL VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 APR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976KABUL03136
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760159-0666
From: KABUL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760419/aaaaapms.tel
Line Count: 130
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 SEOUL 2414
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19 MAY 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <15 SEP 2004 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REPUBLIC OF KOREA (ROK) MISSION VISITS KABUL
TAGS: PFOR, KS, AF
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006